

GOVERNMENT OF TALANGANA

ABSTRACT

Forest Conservation Act, 1980 – Diversion of 0.9 Ha of Forest Land in Ramavaram Range, Kothagudem Forest Division of erstwhile Khammam District being used for Submersible pumps at padmavathikhani Coal Mine of SCCL, Kothagudem Area in favour of M/s.Singareni Collieries Company Limited, Kothagudem Area, Bhadradi - Kothagudem District. – **Final (Stage-II)** approval accorded – Orders - Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No. 52

Dated: 12-11-2021

Read the following:-

1. From the PCCF (HoFF), T.S. Hyd. Lr. No. 8592/2017/FCA-1/PS, Dt:14.03.2019.
2. State Govt., Lr.No.1068/For.I(1)/2019, Dt:18-04-2019.
3. From the GoI, MoEF&CC (FC Division), New Delhi, F.No.8-277/1985-FC(Vol.I), dt.15.10.2019.
4. From PCCF, T.S., Hyderabad, Lr. Rc.No. 8592/2017/FCA-1/PS,Dt:18.06.2020.
5. Govt. Letter No.1068/For.I(1)/2019, Dt:12-08-2020.
- 6.From the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, GoI, MoEF & CC, New Delhi, F.No. 8-277/1985 FC (VoI.I), Dt.12.05.2021 received on 23.07.2021.

O R D E R:-

In the letter 1st read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana State, Hyderabad has submitted a proposal for diversion of 0.9 Ha of Forest Land in Ramavaram Range, Kothagudem Forest Division of erstwhile Khammam District being used for Submersible pumps at padmavathikhani Coal Mine of SCCL, Kothagudem Area in favour of M/s.Singareni Collieries Company Limited, Kothagudem Area, Bhadradi - Kothagudem District.

2. In the letter 2nd read above, the proposal in para-1 above was forwarded to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi, for granting approval under section -2 of the Forest (C) Act, 1980.

3. In the letter 3rd read above, the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi, have granted in-principle (Stage-I) approval for the above proposal, subject to fulfillment of the conditions stipulated thereof.

4. In the letter 5th read above, the Government of Telangana have sent the report of compliance on the conditions stipulated by GoI, as submitted by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana State, Hyderabad in her letter 4th read above, to the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Chennai for according necessary approval.

5. In the letter 6th read above, Central Government have granted final (Stage-II) approval for the proposal in para 1 above, under Section- 2 of the Forest (C) Act, 1980, subject to fulfillment of the conditions stipulated therein.

6. Accordingly, Government hereby accord **final (Stage-II)** approval for diversion of 0.9 Ha of Forest Land in Ramavaram Range, Kothagudem Forest

(PTO)

Division of erstwhile Khammam District being used for Submersible pumps at padmavathikhani Coal Mine of SCCL, Kothagudem Area in favour of M/s.Singareni Collieries Company Limited, Kothagudem Area, Bhadradi - Kothagudem District, subject to the following conditions:-

A:Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land to user agency by the State Govt.:-

- i. The State Govt. shall ensure the complete compliance on FRA, 2006;It should also be ensured that the FRA certificate issued by District collector is complete with letter number, date, name, signature and official seal, as required in the certificate;
- ii. The State Govt. shall ensure that the boundary of the diverted forest land, shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS co-ordinates; and
- iii. The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986; if required;
- iv. The State Government shall upload the kml files of the area under diversion and the accepted degraded forest land for raising compensatory afforestation in the E-Green Watch portal of FSI, before handing over forest land to the user agency;

B.Conditions which need to be complied after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State Govt.;

- i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. The user agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and transfer the same to the ad-hoc CAMPA under intimation to this Ministry;
- iii. The State Govt. and the user agency shall ensure that the forest land on surface of the mining lease may fenced and afforested by the user agency;
- iv. The period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of mining lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals(Development & Regulating) Act,1957, as amended or Rules framed there under;
- v. The User Agency in consultation with State Forest Department shall undertake gap planting and soil & moisture conservation activities to restock and rejuvenate the degraded open forests(having crown density less than 0.4), if any, located in the area within 100 m. from outer perimeter of the mining lease;
- vi. The State Govt. and the User Agency shall ensure de-silting of the village tanks and other water bodies located within five km from the mine lease boundary so as to mitigate the impact of siltation of such tanks/ water bodies, whenever required, preferably within five years;
- vii. The State Govt. shall ensure that the User Agency shall provide firewood preferably alternate fuel to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the adjacent forest areas;
- viii. The State Govt. shall ensure that the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal and under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without obtaining prior approval of the Central Government;

- ix. The User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum numbers in the diverted forest land and trees shall be felled under strict supervision of the State Forest Department.
- x. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
- xi. No labour camps shall be set up inside the forest area. Labour management plan should be implement with emphasis that no labour camp be set up in the close vicinity of the eco-fragile and sensitive areas;
- xii. The Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel;
- xiii. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer;
- xiv. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
- xv. No damage to the flora and fauna of the area shall be caused;
- xvi. The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in the surrounding area;
- xvii. The User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly;
- xviii. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India;
- xix. The State Govt. shall ensure that the Compliance report of this approval is uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).
- xx. The Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the para 1.21 of Comprehensive guidelines issued vide this Ministry F.No.5-2/2017-FC, dated.28th March, 2019.
- xxi. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife shall be carried with by the State Government and user agency; and
- xxii. The State Government and user agency shall ensure compliance to all conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval letter dated 15.10.2019 for which undertakings have been obtained from the user agency and also the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, relevant Hon'ble Court Order (S) and NGT Order (S). if any, pertaining to this project for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana State, Hyderabad shall take necessary action, accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)

A.SANTHI KUMARI,
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Telangana State, Hyderabad.

Copy to:

The Director General, Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division),
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jorbagh Road,
New Delhi 110 003.

The Addl. Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, (Central), Govt. of India,
Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional office, Panagal
Building, 8th floor, Saidapet, Chennai -600 015.

The Regional Officer(Central),
Integrated Regional Office, Hyderabad,
Aranya Bhavan, Opposite Reserve Bank of India,
Saifabad,Hyderabad - 500004(w.e.)

The Chairman & Managing Director, Singareni Collieries Company
Limited, Singareni Bhavan Red Hills Hyderabad.

PS to Hon'ble M (F&E).

PS to Special Chief Secretary to Govt., EFS&T Department.

SC/SF.

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER